

Implementation of Adaptive Management: What's the Obstacle?

Moderator

Chris Moody, RG (TIG Environmental)

Panelists (*invited*)

William Brighton (Department of Justice – Environmental)

Megan McCulloch (The Dow Chemical Company)

Steve Nadeau (Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP)

Doug Reid-Green (BASF Remediation Manager)

Doug Tomchuck (U.S. EPA)

James Woolford (U.S. EPA/Superfund Site)

Topic Introduction

Adaptive management is often discussed as the preferred approach for large-scale (or mega) sediment cleanup projects due to uncertainty in how the system will respond. Adaptive management is an approach to sediment cleanup that entails monitoring the selected remedy and making iterative adjustments over time. Papers and conference presentations on sediment cleanup frequently conclude with the need to engage all stakeholders to allow implementation of adaptive management. The inherent dynamic nature of adaptive management often conflicts with the stakeholders' desire for financial or schedule certainty. This panel would consist of members that represent differing points-of-views on impediments that prevent implementation of adaptive management and their ideas for overcoming those impediments.

Format

- Welcome/Introductions (10 min)
- Initial remarks by each panelist (20 mins)
- Moderator-curated questions (35 mins)
 - Audience interaction (throughout moderator questions)
- Audience Q&A (20 mins)
- Conclusion/Summary (10 mins)

Examples of Audience Interaction Questions

A website (<http://about.zeetings.com/>) will be used to allow audience members to respond real time. The results will be displayed on a monitor in the room to allow panel members to respond.

- How many people are working on a sediment site where they believe adaptive management would be beneficial?
- Can a member of the audience speak briefly about a site where adaptive management has been successfully used?
- Has adaptive management been discussed with the regulatory agency at one or more of your sites?
- If adaptive management was discussed but was not used, what was the rationale given?
 - Not enough data to select
 - Too much financial or schedule uncertainty
 - Other?